

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 5, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

M3  
1589  
Ownership

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

Vibrant public dialogue – facilitated by a diverse array of media outlets – has long been a cornerstone of American Democracy. Even more central to our national identity is our capacity to question, stand up, and speak out. No entity, no matter how wealthy or powerful, can be allowed to silence the voices of individual Americans and their patchwork of communities that hold this great country together. Being the primary source of news across America, broadcast media plays a vital role in informing and shaping public discourse. Further consolidation of this industry presents a serious and immediate threat to our democratic process.

Before the Commission changes its media ownership rules, it must fully consider the impact of any further consolidation in order to satisfy its obligation to serve the public interest, and also to comply with the mandate of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals reviewing the Commission's decisions on this question. While we appreciate the Commission providing a comment period on its summary ownership statistics, this does not meet the Third Circuit Court's standard regarding media ownership diversity. The court instructed the FCC to study the impact on female and minority ownership before making any rule change. The FCC has a responsibility to fully analyze how this proposed rule change will affect the communities who have been denied an ownership stake in our media system for far too long. We urge the FCC to conduct the thoughtful and thorough analysis this question deserves before moving forward with a rule change that could have a detrimental impact on ownership diversity.

We have been and remain concerned with this pattern of increased concentration and lessened diversity for many reasons, not least of which is the fact that many of our constituents still depend heavily on TV and radio broadcasts for their news and information. Broadcast media continues to be the primary source of local news, with 74 percent of adults getting local news from local TV stations, 51 percent getting it from radio broadcasts, and 50 percent from local newspapers.

While local broadcast media remain an important source of information for our constituents, these outlets often do not reflect the diversity of the communities they serve. Women and people of color historically held very few licenses for radio and television stations, and these numbers remain shockingly low. The Commission very recently released new data indicating that ownership of broadcast outlets does not reflect our nation's growing diversity. Women hold less than 7 percent of all full-power commercial radio and television broadcast licenses, while racial and ethnic minorities control only 3.6 percent of such TV stations and 8 percent of such radio stations.

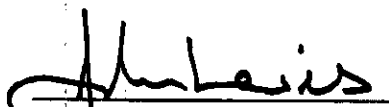

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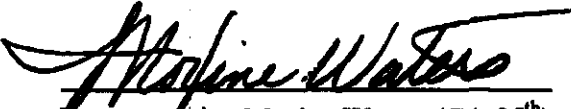
Despite these numbers, we are led to believe that the Commission may once again relax its cross-ownership rules. Reports suggest that these changes could include lifting a ban on allowing newspapers to own a TV station in the same market in which they publish. These rule changes and others appear to be largely the same as those proposed by former Chairman Kevin Martin in 2007 – and that Congressional Democrats, along with the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and the public at large resoundingly rejected. It is our understanding that a vote on this latest round of proposed rule changes could even occur in the next several weeks, without any public hearings or discussions on these proposals.

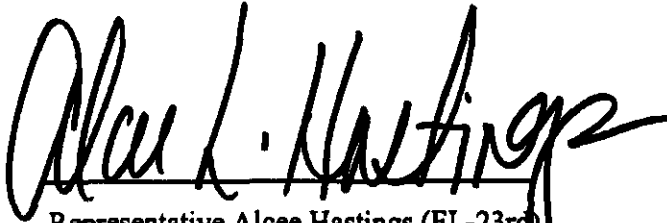
Little if anything has changed since the Commission last proposed such rule changes in 2007. The recently released ownership report provides some long-absent data, but the numbers paint a bleak picture. The Commission has not adequately addressed the likely impact of any proposed rule changes on diversity, as the Third Circuit has repeatedly required of the Commission's actions in this proceeding. We are concerned that already low levels of ownership will be diminished even further by the proposed rule changes. Further consolidation would harm the entire media system, but have a disproportionate impact on diverse owners and the communities they serve.

For all of these reasons, we respectfully request that the Commission not proceed with its proposed rule changes at this time, and that it seeks further analysis and comment on its recently released data before it acts on its media ownership rules.

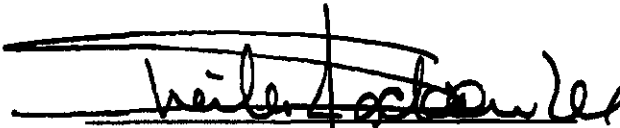
Sincerely,

  
JOHN LEWIS  
EMANUEL CLEAVER  
KEITH ELLISON  
RAUL M. GRIJALVA  
CHARLES A. GONZALEZ  
LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER

  
Representative Maxine Waters (CA-35<sup>th</sup>)

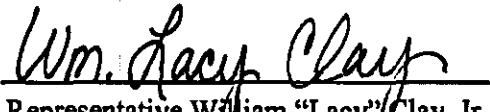
  
Representative Alcee Hastings (FL-23<sup>rd</sup>)


  
Representative Hansen Clarke (MI-13<sup>th</sup>)

  
Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee  
(TX-18<sup>th</sup>)

  
Representative Yvette Clarke (NY-11<sup>th</sup>)

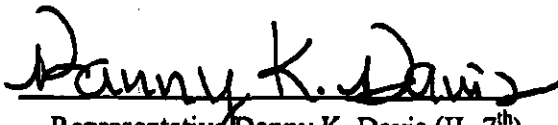
  
Representative Gwen Moore (WI-4<sup>th</sup>)


  
Representative William "Lacy" Clay, Jr.  
(MO-1<sup>st</sup>)


  
Representative Laura Richardson  
(CA-37<sup>th</sup>)


  
Representative Elijah Cummings (MD-7<sup>th</sup>)

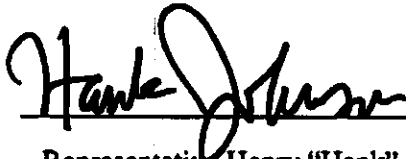
  
Representative Terri Sewell (AL-7<sup>th</sup>)

  
Representative Danny K. Davis (IL-7<sup>th</sup>)

  
Representative Bennie Thompson  
(MS-2<sup>nd</sup>)

  
Representative Chaka Fattah (PA-2<sup>nd</sup>)

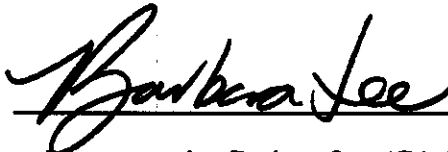
  
Representative Edolphus Towns (NY-10<sup>th</sup>)




Representative Henry "Hank" Johnson  
(GA-4<sup>th</sup>)



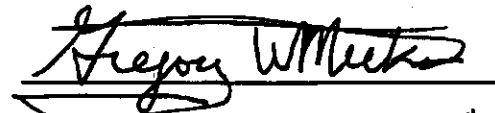
Representative Cedric Richmond (LA-2<sup>nd</sup>)



Representative Barbara Lee (CA-9<sup>th</sup>)



Representative Bobby L. Rush (IL-1<sup>st</sup>)



Representative Gregory Meeks (NY-6<sup>th</sup>)



Representative David Scott (GA-13<sup>th</sup>)



Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton  
(DC - At-Large)



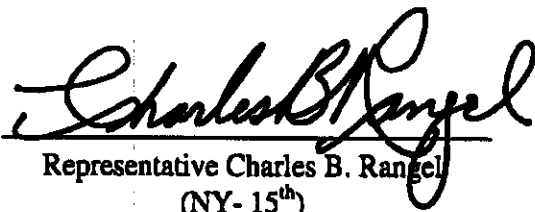
Representative Robert "Bobby" Scott  
(VA-3<sup>rd</sup>)



Representative Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
(NJ-10<sup>th</sup>)



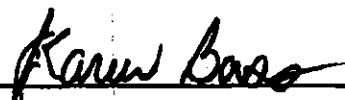
Representative Melvin Watt (NC-12<sup>th</sup>)



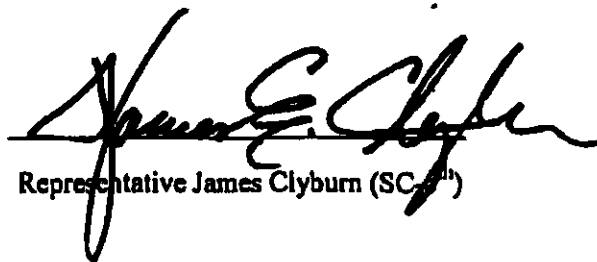

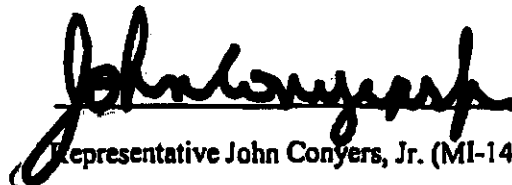
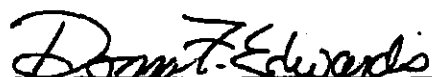
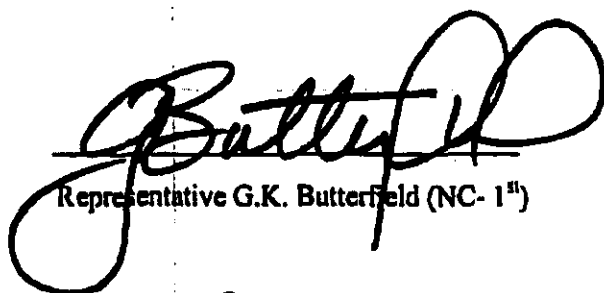
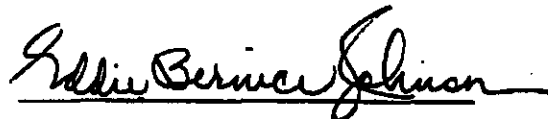
Representative Charles B. Rangel  
(NY- 15<sup>th</sup>)



Representative Frederica Wilson (FL-17<sup>th</sup>)



Representative Karen Bass (CA-33)

Representative James Clyburn (SC-6<sup>th</sup>)Representative Sanford Bishop (GA-2<sup>nd</sup>)Representative John Conyers, Jr. (MI-14<sup>th</sup>)Representative Corrine Brown (FL-3<sup>rd</sup>)Representative Donna Edwards (MD-4<sup>th</sup>)Representative G.K. Butterfield (NC-1<sup>st</sup>)Representative Marcia Fudge (OH-11<sup>th</sup>)Representative André Carson (IN-7<sup>th</sup>)Representative Al Green (TX-9<sup>th</sup>)Representative Donna Christensen  
(VI - At-Large)Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson  
(TX-30<sup>th</sup>)

Linda S. Sanchez

Representative Linda Sanchez (CA-39)



# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2429 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bishop:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

The growth of the Internet is changing the media landscape, including the economics of local newspapers and broadcasters. At the same time, while broadband adoption is increasing, tens of millions of Americans do not yet have ready access to news and other content available on the Internet, and changes in ownership rules may have different effects on those with or without Internet access.

With this in mind, earlier in the Commission's review of its broadcast ownership rules, I circulated a draft order for my colleagues' consideration that would primarily preserve existing ownership rules while proposing steps to promote media diversity and modest reforms that could help strengthen local journalism. I proposed to (1) keep the bulk of existing broadcast ownership rules in place, including the rules limiting the number of TV and radio stations that can be co-owned in any market, and the rules prohibiting ownership of more than one major broadcast network; (2) provide various diversity-promoting broadcast opportunities for small businesses and proceed with studies to determine whether additional measures can be taken in the next quadrennial review to promote minority ownership; (3) retain the rule prohibiting TV-newspaper combinations, while providing greater transparency and predictability on waivers, in a way that would strengthen the bar against major TV station-newspaper combinations, and reduce the bar to smaller TV station-newspaper combinations in the top 20 markets; and (4) remove the bar on cross-ownership of radio stations and newspapers. Circulation of the proposed order has led to healthy discussions among Commissioners and stakeholders about the substance of the issues and the state of the record before the agency.

As you may know, the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council recently informed the Commission that it will conduct a focused, independent study on the effects of cross-ownership rules on minority ownership and newsgathering, in order to enhance the record in the Commission's proceeding. The study is expected to take several weeks and will be filed

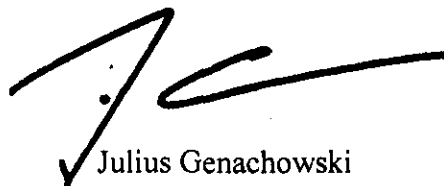
with the Commission, after which MMTC suggests that the agency solicit public input, to be followed by a Commission vote. In this heavily-litigated area where a strong record is particularly important, I believe this is a sensible approach to moving forward. The study addresses an issue of importance, will augment the record, and will assist the Commission in resolving the issues before it on the full record.

In addition to the ongoing review of our broadcast ownership rules, our work to promote diversity continues in other areas. For example, our Office of Communications Business Opportunities (OCBO) has been reviewing the state of communications and media ecologies as part of the Section 257 Report to Congress process. Additionally, the Commission is conducting studies to analyze the critical information needs of the American public and the barriers to participation in the communications industry that might limit the extent to which those needs are met.

Further efforts to promote diversity include our work to enable the largest-ever expansion of community radio, when, in December of last year, the Commission created opportunities for non-profit organizations and minority groups to launch thousands of new low-power FM radio stations. The Commission also recently released an ownership report that provides, for the first time, detailed information by race, ethnicity, and gender concerning ownership of commercial television and radio stations. In our review of the Comcast-NBCU transaction, the Commission worked closely with the parties to develop initiatives, including major ones on broadband adoption and independent programming, to ensure that the transaction improved diversity in the media marketplace. And we adopted rules to preserve an open Internet for all, and to push for greater broadband adoption by low-income groups and minorities.

I remain committed to developing policies that help support and promote a diversity of ownership and viewpoints in our media, which are essential to a well-functioning democracy, and I appreciate the Caucus's continued attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

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Julius Genachowski





## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Corrine Brown  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2336 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Brown:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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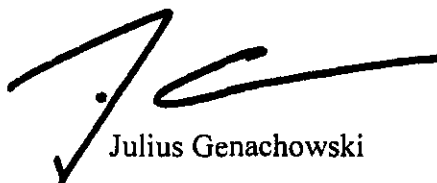
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Sincerely,

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Julius Genachowski



# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable George K. Butterfield  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2305 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Butterfield:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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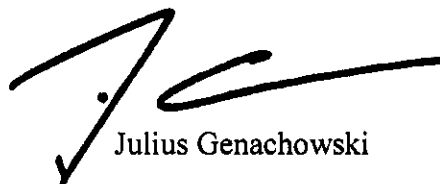
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I remain committed to developing policies that help support and promote a diversity of ownership and viewpoints in our media, which are essential to a well-functioning democracy, and I appreciate the Caucus's continued attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

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Julius Genachowski



# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable André Carson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
425 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Carson:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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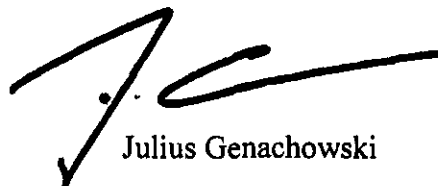
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Sincerely,

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Julius Genachowski



# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Donna M. Christensen  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1510 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Christensen:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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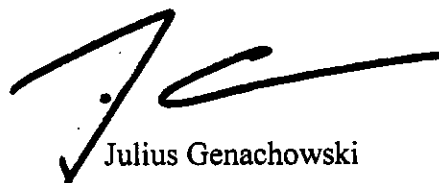
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I remain committed to developing policies that help support and promote a diversity of ownership and viewpoints in our media, which are essential to a well-functioning democracy, and I appreciate the Caucus's continued attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

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Julius Genachowski





# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Yvette D. Clarke  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1029 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Clarke:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

The growth of the Internet is changing the media landscape, including the economics of local newspapers and broadcasters. At the same time, while broadband adoption is increasing, tens of millions of Americans do not yet have ready access to news and other content available on the Internet, and changes in ownership rules may have different effects on those with or without Internet access.

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As you may know, the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council recently informed the Commission that it will conduct a focused, independent study on the effects of cross-ownership rules on minority ownership and newsgathering, in order to enhance the record in the Commission's proceeding. The study is expected to take several weeks and will be filed

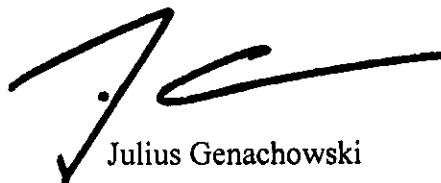
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Julius Genachowski



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable William Lacy Clay  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2418 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Clay:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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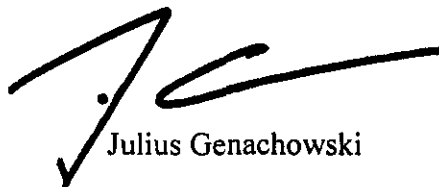
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Julius Genachowski



# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Emanuel Cleaver  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1433 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cleaver:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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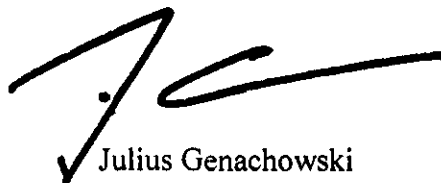
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# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable James E. Clyburn  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2135 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Clyburn:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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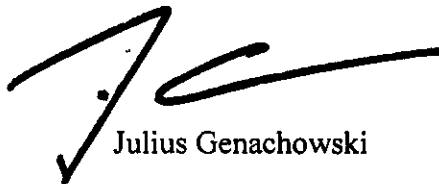
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# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2426 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Conyers:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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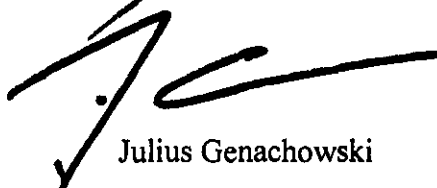
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2235 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cummings:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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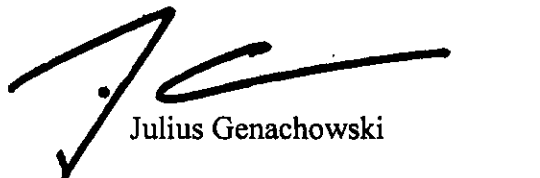
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# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Danny K. Davis  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2159 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Davis:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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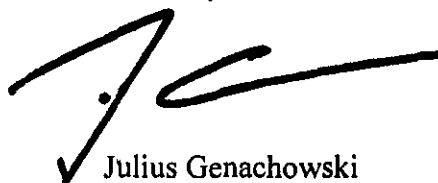
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Donna F. Edwards  
U.S. House of Representatives  
318 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Edwards:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

The growth of the Internet is changing the media landscape, including the economics of local newspapers and broadcasters. At the same time, while broadband adoption is increasing, tens of millions of Americans do not yet have ready access to news and other content available on the Internet, and changes in ownership rules may have different effects on those with or without Internet access.

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As you may know, the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council recently informed the Commission that it will conduct a focused, independent study on the effects of cross-ownership rules on minority ownership and newsgathering, in order to enhance the record in the Commission's proceeding. The study is expected to take several weeks and will be filed

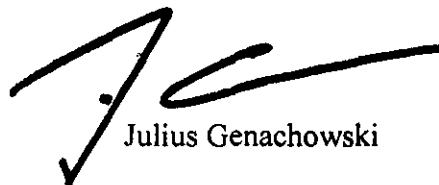
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I remain committed to developing policies that help support and promote a diversity of ownership and viewpoints in our media, which are essential to a well-functioning democracy, and I appreciate the Caucus's continued attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

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Julius Genachowski





# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Keith Ellison  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1027 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Ellison:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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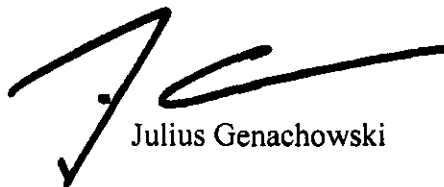
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Julius Genachowski



## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Chaka Fattah  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2301 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Fattah:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Marcia L. Fudge  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1019 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Fudge:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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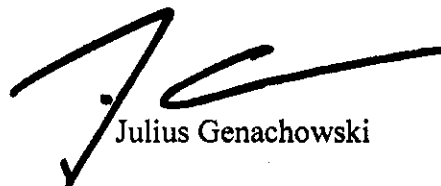
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Charles A. Gonzalez  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1436 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gonzalez:

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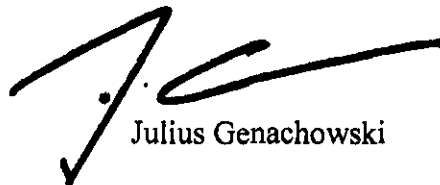
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# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Al Green  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2201 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Green:

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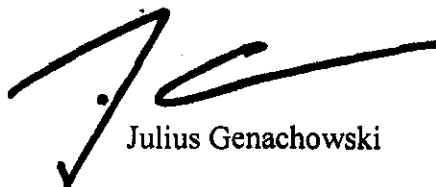
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Raúl M. Grijalva  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1511 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Grijalva:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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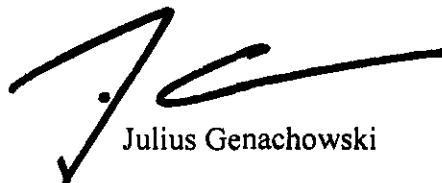
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# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Alcee L. Hastings  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2353 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hastings:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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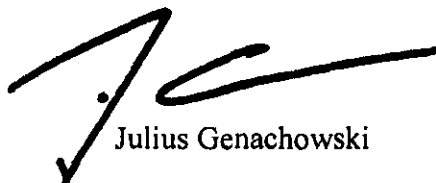
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I remain committed to developing policies that help support and promote a diversity of ownership and viewpoints in our media, which are essential to a well-functioning democracy, and I appreciate the Caucus's continued attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

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Julius Genachowski



# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Richard (Doc) Hastings  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1203 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hastings:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

The growth of the Internet is changing the media landscape, including the economics of local newspapers and broadcasters. At the same time, while broadband adoption is increasing, tens of millions of Americans do not yet have ready access to news and other content available on the Internet, and changes in ownership rules may have different effects on those with or without Internet access.

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As you may know, the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council recently informed the Commission that it will conduct a focused, independent study on the effects of cross-ownership rules on minority ownership and newsgathering, in order to enhance the record in the Commission's proceeding. The study is expected to take several weeks and will be filed

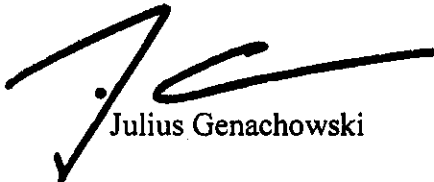
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Sincerely,



Julius Genachowski





FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Johnson:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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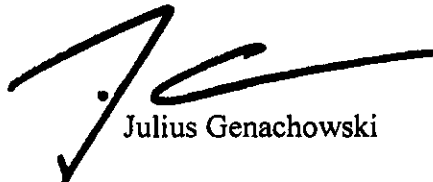
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Sincerely,



Julius Genachowski



# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable John Lewis  
U.S. House of Representatives  
343 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lewis:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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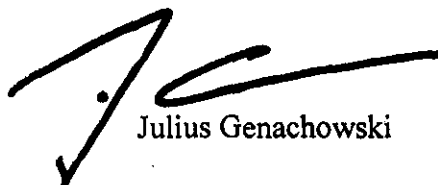
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Julius Genachowski



# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Gwen S. Moore  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2245 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Moore:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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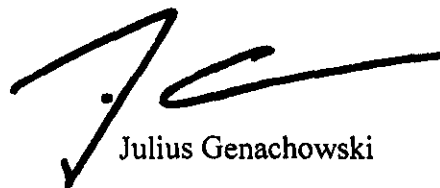
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Julius Genachowski



# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2310 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Payne:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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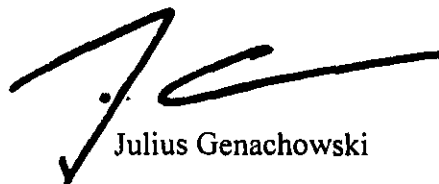
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Julius Genachowski





## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Terri A. Sewell  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1133 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Sewell:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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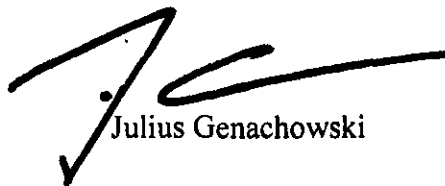
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Julius Genachowski



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Louise M. Slaughter  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2469 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Slaughter:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

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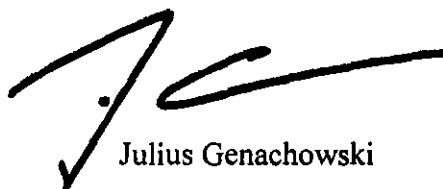
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Julius Genachowski



## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2466 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Thompson:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

The growth of the Internet is changing the media landscape, including the economics of local newspapers and broadcasters. At the same time, while broadband adoption is increasing, tens of millions of Americans do not yet have ready access to news and other content available on the Internet, and changes in ownership rules may have different effects on those with or without Internet access.

With this in mind, earlier in the Commission's review of its broadcast ownership rules, I circulated a draft order for my colleagues' consideration that would primarily preserve existing ownership rules while proposing steps to promote media diversity and modest reforms that could help strengthen local journalism. I proposed to (1) keep the bulk of existing broadcast ownership rules in place, including the rules limiting the number of TV and radio stations that can be co-owned in any market, and the rules prohibiting ownership of more than one major broadcast network; (2) provide various diversity-promoting broadcast opportunities for small businesses and proceed with studies to determine whether additional measures can be taken in the next quadrennial review to promote minority ownership; (3) retain the rule prohibiting TV-newspaper combinations, while providing greater transparency and predictability on waivers, in a way that would strengthen the bar against major TV station-newspaper combinations, and reduce the bar to smaller TV station-newspaper combinations in the top 20 markets; and (4) remove the bar on cross-ownership of radio stations and newspapers. Circulation of the proposed order has led to healthy discussions among Commissioners and stakeholders about the substance of the issues and the state of the record before the agency.

As you may know, the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council recently informed the Commission that it will conduct a focused, independent study on the effects of cross-ownership rules on minority ownership and newsgathering, in order to enhance the record in the Commission's proceeding. The study is expected to take several weeks and will be filed

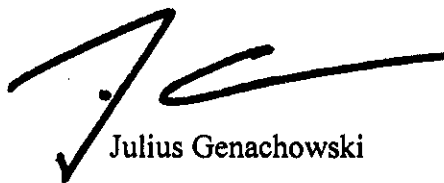
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In addition to the ongoing review of our broadcast ownership rules, our work to promote diversity continues in other areas. For example, our Office of Communications Business Opportunities (OCBO) has been reviewing the state of communications and media ecologies as part of the Section 257 Report to Congress process. Additionally, the Commission is conducting studies to analyze the critical information needs of the American public and the barriers to participation in the communications industry that might limit the extent to which those needs are met.

Further efforts to promote diversity include our work to enable the largest-ever expansion of community radio, when, in December of last year, the Commission created opportunities for non-profit organizations and minority groups to launch thousands of new low-power FM radio stations. The Commission also recently released an ownership report that provides, for the first time, detailed information by race, ethnicity, and gender concerning ownership of commercial television and radio stations. In our review of the Comcast-NBCU transaction, the Commission worked closely with the parties to develop initiatives, including major ones on broadband adoption and independent programming, to ensure that the transaction improved diversity in the media marketplace. And we adopted rules to preserve an open Internet for all, and to push for greater broadband adoption by low-income groups and minorities.

I remain committed to developing policies that help support and promote a diversity of ownership and viewpoints in our media, which are essential to a well-functioning democracy, and I appreciate the Caucus's continued attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Genachowski', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Julius Genachowski



## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Edolphus Towns  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2232 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Towns:

Thank you for your recent letter on the pending broadcast ownership quadrennial review. I appreciate hearing your views about these important issues before the Commission. As the Commission conducts its review, promoting diversity of ownership is one of a small number of particularly critical goals, along with guarding against excessive media consolidation, enabling robust local news for all communities, and fostering economic growth and opportunity.

The growth of the Internet is changing the media landscape, including the economics of local newspapers and broadcasters. At the same time, while broadband adoption is increasing, tens of millions of Americans do not yet have ready access to news and other content available on the Internet, and changes in ownership rules may have different effects on those with or without Internet access.

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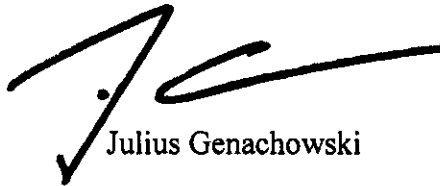
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Julius Genachowski





# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 8, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Maxine Waters  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2344 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Waters:

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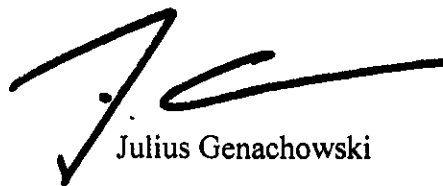
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